

## Message Text

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14

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 COME-00 LOC-01 L-03 /021 W

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R 150730Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8307

UNCLAS SEOUL 5438

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EINV, KS

SUBJ: COPYRIGHT PROTECTION IN KOREA

1. DURING THE SEVENTH COMMERCE MINISTERS MEETING AT SEOUL IN MAY, COMMERCE SECRETARY ELLIOT RICHARDSON RAISED THE ISSUE OF COPYRIGHT PROTECTION IN KOREA. MCI MINISTER CHANG YIE-JOON INDICATED HE WOULD REQUEST THAT APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES DEAL WITH COPYRIGHT PROBLEMS.

2. FOLLOWING THE SEVENTH COMMERCE MINISTER'S MEETING, ROBERT BAENSCH, CHAIRMAN, INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMITTEE, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS, VISITED SEOUL TO DISCUSS THE KOREAN COPYRIGHT SITUATION. BAENSCH PROPOSED THAT THE ROKG EXTEND ITS PRESENT COPYRIGHT LAW TO INCLUDE REPRINTED EDITIONS OF FOREIGN BOOKS. THIS COULD SERVE AS A FIRST STEP TOWARD EVENTUAL SIGNING BY KOREA OF THE UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION. IF PROTECTED FROM UNAUTHORIZED REPRINTS IN KOREA BY SUCH A LAW, FOREIGN FIRMS COULD BE ENCOURAGED DO BUSINESS WITH AND TO INVEST IN KOREA. ALSO, BY PREVENTING PIRACY THE ROK WOULD SAVE VALUABLE RESOURCES NOW BEING WATED BY OVERPRINTING UNAUTHORIZED EDITIONS OF FOREIGN BOOKS. BAENSCH EXPRESSED THE CONCERN OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS WHO FEAR THE KOREAN PIRATED BOOKS WILL BE DUMPED ON THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET. HOWEVER, WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED THE CURRENT ROKG LAWS ARE SUCCESSFUL IN PREVENTING ILLEGAL EXPORT AT THIS TIME.

3. WE BELIEVE THIS PROPOSAL IS A SOUND APPROACH

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SINCE IT PROVIDES INTERIM PROTECTION, PENDING THE

EVENTUAL SIGNING OF THE UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION  
BY KOREA.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, COPYRIGHT LAW  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** schaeafaj  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COPYRIGHT PROTECTION IN KOREA  
**TAGS:** BEXP, EINV, EIND, KS, US, (RICHARDSON, ELLIOT L), (BAENSCH, ROBERT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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